



FEED THE FUTURE

The U.S. Government's Global Hunger & Food Security Initiative

ANNUAL REPORT JANUARY - SEPTEMBER 2014

THE AGRICULTURE KNOWLEDGE, LEARNING, DOCUMENTATION AND POLICY PROJECT



USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

ANNUAL REPORT JANUARY - SEPTEMBER 2014

THE AGRICULTURE KNOWLEDGE, LEARNING, DOCUMENTATION AND POLICY PROJECT

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The Agriculture Knowledge, Learning, Documentation and Policy Project (AKLDP) is part of the U.S. Government's Feed the Future initiative in Ethiopia.

The project supports improved practice and policy across a range of agriculture, food security and nutrition initiatives and programs. It provides analyses, reviews and evaluations, and technical support to government partners, implementers, and private sector. The AKLDP covers Ethiopia's three main agro-ecological zones – high and low rainfall highland mixed farming and lowland pastoral – and therefore covers issues affecting agriculture, livestock and pastoralism. The project also provides collaborative learning support on climate change adaptation, nutrition and gender-equity.

The AKLDP is a five-year project that began in January 2014. The project is implemented by the [Feinstein International Center](#) at Friedman School of Nutrition Science and Policy, [Tufts University](#). The [AKLDP team](#) is a mix of economists and specialists in agronomy, agriculture, livestock, food security, and crop and livestock marketing.



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HIGHLIGHTS:YEAR ONE

Highlights from the AKLDP's first year of implementation include:

- [*Public-Private Partnerships \(PPPs\) for Managing Livestock Service Facilities – Experiences from Somaliland and Djibouti*](#), July 2014. Released by the Ministry of Agriculture and Ministry of Trade in Ethiopia, this report describes a review of PPPs for managing livestock quarantine centers, abattoirs and markets in Somaliland and Djibouti.
- [*Mid-Term Evaluation of ENGINE Report*](#), August 2014. This report describes the findings and recommendations of the Mid-Term Evaluation of ENGINE, USAID's large-scale nutrition project in Ethiopia.
- [*Annual Review of the New Alliance in Ethiopia*](#), June 2014 (updated September 2014). This report presents progress in Ethiopia towards the New Alliance for Food Security and Nutrition for 2013-2014, including government policy commitments and case studies of private sector investments in agriculture.

BACKGROUND & CONTEXT

AKLDP is tasked with helping USAID and its implementing partners learn, document and take to scale evidence-based good practice; and to document and use good practice to inform and influence Ethiopia's policy and strategy processes in agriculture, food security and nutrition.

The Government of the United States of America launched Feed the Future in 2011 to support increased investments and broad-based agriculture growth through improved productivity and improved resilience to shocks. Feed the Future is now operational in 19 countries¹, including Ethiopia, and is driven by country-led priorities at the country level. In Ethiopia, the U.S. Government has committed more than USD \$270 million to increase agriculture production and productivity, improve farmers' incomes, strengthen markets, address food security and improve household nutrition, through its support to the Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Trade and Ministry of Health.

Within the Feed the Future portfolio, the Agricultural Knowledge, Learning, Documentation and Policy Project (AKLDP) is tasked with helping USAID and its implementing partners learn, document and take to scale evidence-based good practice; and to document and use good practice to inform and influence Ethiopia's policy and strategy processes in agriculture, food security and nutrition. In this way, the



AKLDP is using Feed the Future generated lessons to assist Ethiopia policy and strategy makers to achieve its ambitious agriculture, food security and nutrition targets. AKLDP's overall objective is to assist USAID, its implementing partners and the Government of Ethiopia (GoE) to achieve 'Increased agricultural growth with resilience'². The project is focused on agriculture and livestock development programs in Ethiopia's three main agro-ecological zones – high and low rainfall highland mixed farming, and lowland pastoral.

Smallholder farmers in Ethiopia face a range of challenges. These are well documented, including by the Ministry of Agriculture (2010)³, and include the following:

- About 55 percent of smallholder farmers operate on one hectare or less and a full 30 percent farm less than 0.5 hectares. Under rainfed agriculture at current yield levels, holdings of less than 0.5 hectares cannot produce enough food to meet household requirements
- Most agricultural production is used to meet household consumption needs and, for a very large number of households, there is a prolonged hunger season during the pre-harvest period
- When there are surpluses, smallholder farmers are often constrained by lack of access to markets. In all farming systems, livestock are the single most important household asset and there is a strong correlation between lack of livestock ownership and poverty, particularly among female-headed households
- Severe land degradation is the result of deforestation, population pressure and inadequate land use planning. Ethiopia has one of the highest rates of soil nutrient depletion in sub-Saharan Africa. Estimates suggest that the annual phosphorus and nitrogen loss nationwide from the

use of dung for fuel is equivalent to the total amount of commercial fertilizer applied.

Many of these challenges are exacerbated in poor and very poor households as populations grow and each plot of land has to feed more people. Ethiopia now has a population of approximately 100 million people.

The Government of Ethiopia is determined to defeat poverty, hunger and under-nutrition, and to reduce the country's need for international food aid. Under its Growth and Transformation Plan (GTP) 2010-2015, the Government announced its intention for Ethiopia to achieve middle-income status by 2025. During the initial years of the GTP, Ethiopia was reported to be one of the fastest growing economies in Africa and indeed the world. Agriculture is one of the main drivers of economic growth and it is planned to double agriculture production and productivity in the GTP2 (2015-2020).

Investment in the agriculture sector is informed by Ethiopia's strategy of agriculture development led industrialisation (ADLI), under which Ethiopia launched three five-year macro-economic plans: the Sustainable Development and Poverty Reduction Plan 2000-2005; the Plan for Accelerated and Sustained Development to End Poverty 2005-2010; and most recently the GTP. Ethiopia's investment in agriculture-led growth is also aligned with the Africa wide New Partnership for African Development (NEPAD) framework, led by the African Union (AU). Under NEPAD, the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP) was adopted at the AU Maputo Summit of July 2003 and set principles and targets to guide national sector strategies. These included an allocation of 10 percent of national budgets to the agricultural sector; the pursuit of national 6 percent average annual growth rates

for the agricultural sector; and the exploitation of regional complementarities and cooperation to boost growth. The principles of partnerships include farmers, agribusiness, and civil society communities. The CAADP Ethiopia Compact was signed in 2009. Its pillars are:

- (i) Improve natural resources management and utilization
- (ii) Improve rural infrastructure, market access and trade capacities
- (iii) Enhance food security and improve disaster risk management
- (iv) Improve the agricultural research and extension system.

A number of Government studies⁴ suggest that under the GTP Ethiopian agricultural output has been growing at around 8 percent per year. This is supported by agriculture sector investment, including natural resource management, of between 13 and 17 percent of Government expenditure, which is far higher than the rest of sub-Saharan Africa and is well in excess of the recommended CAADP minimum of 10 percent. Partly as a result of this investment in agriculture, the number of people living below the poverty line in Ethiopia has fallen from 38 percent in 2005 to 29 percent in 2011. But Ethiopia still records some of the highest levels of child malnutrition in the world with more than 40 percent of children stunted and 19 percent severely stunted⁵.

Aligned with, and seeking to support and strengthen these investments, Feed the Future in Ethiopia has moved well beyond conventional international donor support for Ethiopia and includes an ambitious program of investment in Ethiopia's more fertile highlands with a focus on agri-business and markets, as well as more conventional support for food insecure and pastoral areas.

PROJECT DESIGN

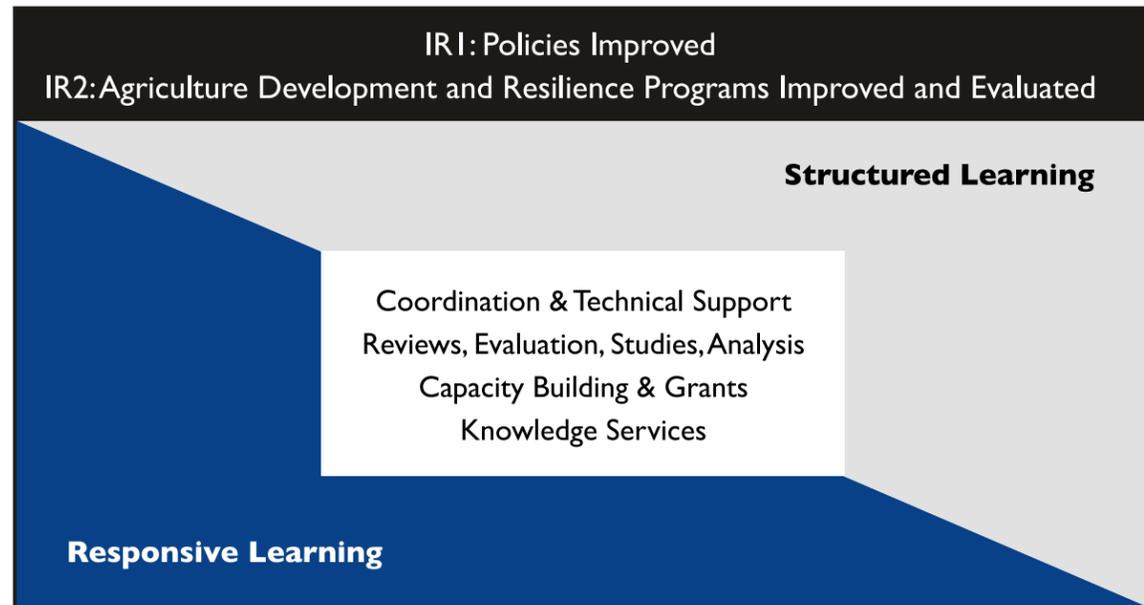
The AKLDP works at different levels—from high-level policy analysis to field-level good practice programming—and engages a very wide range of policy and programming actors.

The AKLDP was designed by USAID to use evidence to guide improved policy and programming across Feed the Future in Ethiopia, and the project was therefore structured around two Intermediate Results (IRs) viz. IR1 Policies improved, and IR2 Agriculture development and resilience programs improved and evaluated. These IRs are achieved using four main types of activity as shown below. In addition, the AKLDP supports structured learning, which is planned in advance, and responsive learning, which is more opportunistic and responds to unexpected issues and needs as they arise (see figure below).

Sectorally, the AKLDP covers a broad set of policy and programming issues related to agriculture, livestock and pastoralist area development, as well as cross-cutting issues

of climate change adaptation, nutrition and gender equity. Given the inclusion of resilience program support under IR2, the AKLDP also provides learning and guidance on humanitarian issues, and the integration of development and humanitarian strategies and programming.

The project works at different levels—from high-level policy analysis to field-level good practice programming—and engages a very wide range of policy and programming actors. The AKLDP works strategically to add value to existing programs and processes where possible, and combines rather than sets up parallel processes. Under the capacity-building work the project works mainly with universities and research institutes in Ethiopia, and has capacity to provide grants to support applied and policy-related research.



AKLDP project design





PROJECT ACTIVITIES

The AKLDP started in January 2014 and this report covers the first nine months of the project. The report is structured according to the four main areas of activity:

- Coordination & Technical Support
- Reviews, Evaluation, Studies, Analysis
- Capacity Building & Grants
- Knowledge Services

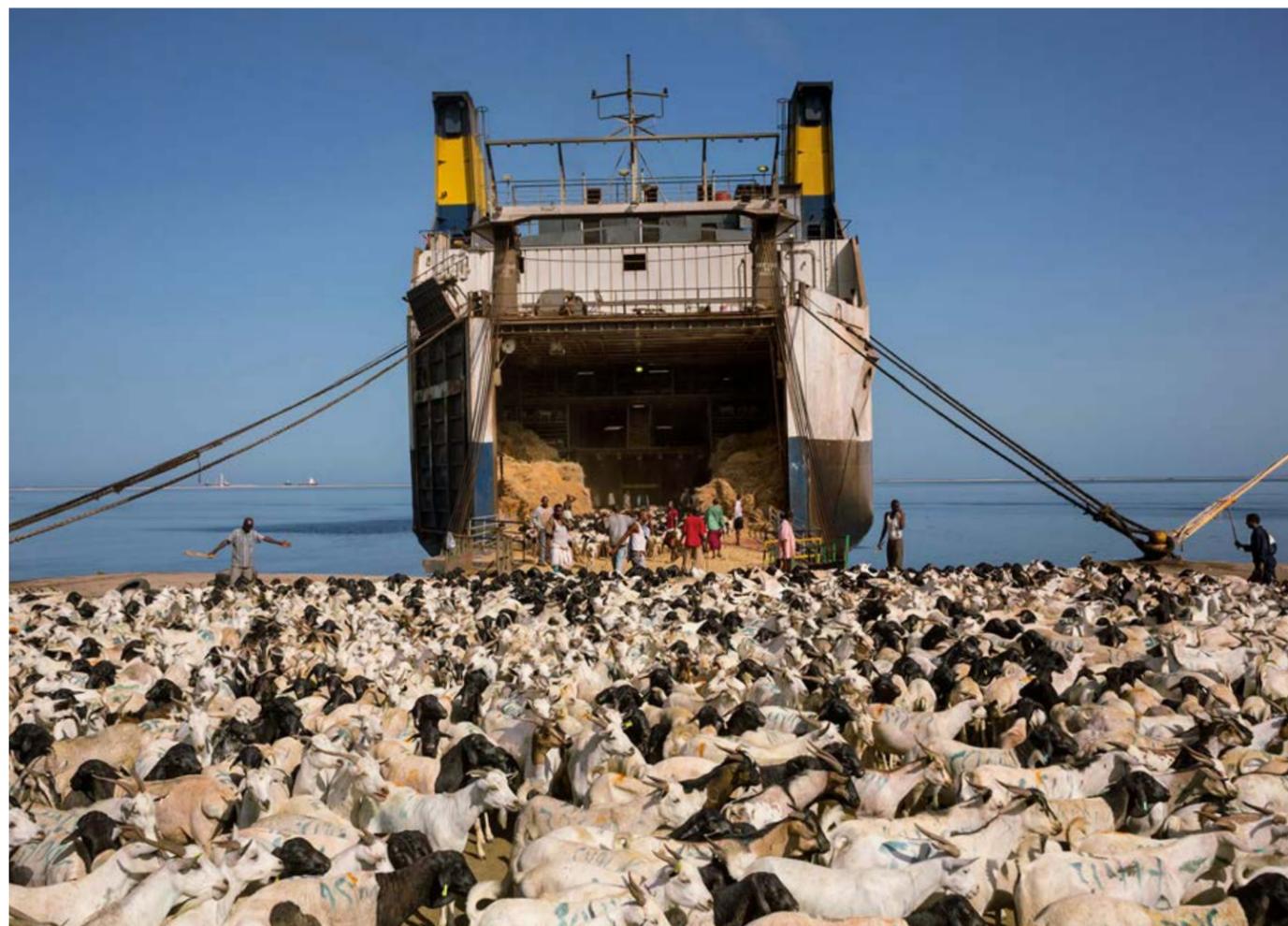
A summary of progress against IRs and sub-IRs is provided in Annex I.

To illustrate progress against planned deliverables, snapshot examples of the activities that the AKLDP team and their partners have been involved in during the USAID reporting period to September 2014 are presented.

COORDINATION & TECHNICAL SUPPORT

AKLDP provides coordination and technical support to guide improvements in USAID agricultural programming and to support national development policies and strategies, particularly those geared towards assisting poorer households to benefit from agricultural and food security investment. Specifically, the AKLDP project

undertakes a set of structured learning and coordination activities, based on policy and programming issues that have been prioritized with USAID and the Government of Ethiopia [Ministry of Agriculture \(MoA\)](#), [Ministry of Trade \(MoT\)](#) and the [Agricultural Transformation Agency \(ATA\)](#).



The AKLDP project undertakes a set of structured learning and coordination activities, based on policy and programming issues that have been prioritized with USAID and the Government of Ethiopia Ministry of Agriculture (MoA), Ministry of Trade (MoT) and the Agriculture Transformation Agency (ATA).

During the first year, the AKLDP established itself in a range of strategic technical support and coordination roles across the agriculture sector program and policy environment in Ethiopia. The project engages with MoA-led Task Forces, contributes to meetings, and engages in wider consultation processes as part of a broader investment in 'getting-up to speed' with strategic priorities in the sector. This active participation has been well received.

Specific activities that have assisted learning and the wider understanding of good practice during 2014 included:

- **Engagement with the Ministry of Agriculture**
 - Support to flagship programs – participation in the Productive Safety Net Program (PSNP)⁶ and Agriculture Growth Program (AGP2)⁷ redesigns
 - Technical support to a review of public-private partnerships to manage livestock facilities – see box at right.
- **Engagement with the Rural Economic Development and Food Security (RED&FS) Sector Working Group⁸**
 - Participation in the Pastoral Livelihoods and DRM Agriculture Task Forces
 - Support for the preparation of the Gender in Agriculture Issues Paper that was presented at the Agriculture Sector Policy Investment Framework (PIF) 2010 – 2020, 2014 Annual Retreat
- **Support to USAID Feed the Future**
 - Facilitation of USAID Feed the Future Quarterly Coordination Meetings
 - Establishment and facilitation of thematic working groups - Feed the Future - Livestock Working Group (LWG) and Cereals and Legumes Group (CLG)

PROGRESS AGAINST DELIVERABLES: EXAMPLE 01

Reviewing Public-Private Partnerships in Somaliland and Djibouti

A study tour to Somaliland was organized by AKLDP in June, hosted by FAO and the Ministry of Livestock in Somaliland. Participants came from Ethiopia's State Ministry of Livestock, Ministry of Trade, and USAID's Livestock Marketing Development (LMD) project. The primary purpose of the tour was to assess the appropriateness, efficiency and sustainability of public-private managed livestock quarantine centers, abattoirs and markets. The team visited two quarantine centers in Berbera, two public abattoirs in Burao and Hargiesa and a live animal market in Hargeisa. The State Ministry of Livestock and Ministry of Trade representatives described the tour as 'an eye opener'.

A trip to Djibouti was organized in July through FAO's Djibouti office. The trip included visits to the recently completed 600 ha quarantine station and the proposed new livestock port. The quarantine station is managed under a Public Private Partnership (PPP), and the Company Manager guided the Study Team around the facilities. The livestock port that Djibouti is building is expected to increase the flow of export livestock from the region, and specifically Ethiopia.

A report on the tour was compiled and submitted by the study team with AKLDP's support. The findings were presented to the Directorate of Veterinary Services and at the AGP-LMD multi-stakeholder platform. The recommendations were that Ethiopia adopts public-private partnerships to manage livestock-related infrastructure - quarantine centers, abattoirs and livestock markets. It is expected that the Minister of State and the State Minister for Livestock Development will endorse these recommendations in due course. AKLDP was also invited to speak at a Ministry of Urban Development workshop on options for the management of slaughterhouses.

REVIEWS, EVALUATION, STUDIES, ANALYSIS

During 2014 the AKLDP progressively established itself with the Government of Ethiopia (GoE), aid donors, USAID, local universities and research institutes as a project that could conduct objective and constructive reviews and evaluations.

The AKLDP was designed to provide opportunistic and responsive analytical support, studies, reviews, evaluations, impacts assessments and briefings that address key issues and questions as they emerge during the project. Support is provided to: USAID and Feed the Future partners; coordination forums; Government agencies; or partner organizations that need help to address their information and learning gaps. During 2014 the AKLDP progressively established itself with the Government of Ethiopia (GoE), aid donors, USAID, local universities and research institutes as a project that could conduct objective and constructive reviews and evaluations.

During the first year of the project, three main reviews and evaluations were conducted:

NEW ALLIANCE FOR FOOD SECURITY AND NUTRITION REVIEW

In April the AKLDP was requested by the MoA to lead the [New Alliance for Food Security and Nutrition Review](#)⁹. Based



on a New Alliance annual review guidance note, the AKLDP developed a methodology for assessing Ethiopia's progress against its Cooperation Framework, and development partner and private sector investments against commitments. The AKLDP then held a series of discussions and consultations with a wide range of government, development partner, private sector and civil society stakeholders to identify progress and challenges. A first draft of the review was submitted in May, and a revised draft in June – see box on opposite page. A workshop was held in late June, which was independently facilitated, after which the final version of the Review of the New Alliance in Ethiopia was produced.

MID-TERM EVALUATION OF THE EMPOWERING NEW GENERATIONS TO IMPROVE NUTRITION AND ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES (ENGINE) PROJECT, ETHIOPIA

In mid-2014 AKLDP conducted a [mid-term evaluation of the project Empowering New Generations to Improve Nutrition and Economic Opportunities \(ENGINE\)](#) in Ethiopia, implemented by Save the Children International and partners. ENGINE was designed to support the Ethiopia government's National Nutrition Policy and USAID nutrition objectives under the U.S. Global Health Initiative and Feed the Future program. The ENGINE project emerged from a growing recognition within USAID of the important contribution of improved nutrition to national development, and the critical importance of assuring adequate nutritional status during 'the first 1000 days' of life. ENGINE is a five-year project and the project budget is US\$51 million. The primary purpose of the mid-term evaluation was to assess the overall direction of the program, management and progress being made toward its 2016 targets, and the levels of integration/ harmonization/ coordination with



other nutrition-related programs in Ethiopia. The Mid-Term Evaluation of ENGINE Report was presented in August.

RAPID ASSESSMENT OF THE USAID-MASHAV-MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE SMALLHOLDER HORTICULTURE PROGRAM

At the request of the Ministry of Agriculture and USAID, the AKLDP undertook a rapid assessment of the third phase of the Smallholder Horticulture Program (SHP) that was launched in May 2012. During the period of this report the AKLDP completed the fieldwork: meeting with Ethiopian smallholders engaged in horticulture together with district, regional and federal experts. It is planned to finalize the rapid assessment in the first quarter of FY 2014 – 2015.

PROGRESS AGAINST DELIVERABLES: EXAMPLE 02 The New Alliance for Food Security and Nutrition Review

In its submission of 1st June AKLDP included the following key findings:

- Despite good progress the New Alliance in Ethiopia faces challenges relating to ownership and commitment. It is recommended the Private Sector Development Task Force (PSDTF) establish a more inclusive, multi-stakeholder platform: Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Trade, the Agricultural Transformation Agency, development partners, the agriculture research community and farmer and civil society organisations.
- In its inaugural meeting the PSDTF prioritized eight of 15 government policy commitments. The review team can find no evidence-base to support the prioritisation in relation to fulfilling the New Alliance's vision for Ethiopia - to lift 2.9 million people out of poverty by 2022. Furthermore, there is an absence of nutrition-related policy commitments. The review team recommends the PSDTF facilitates a re-design process, and revisits New Alliance policy commitments and milestone maps and timelines.
- The proposed re-design offers an opportunity to review expectations and up-date commitments and to establish a tracking system to report on disbursements made by development partners and the private sector.
- The New Alliance is committed to adopting a 'more African' form. The New Alliance in Ethiopia operates within existing Comprehensive Africa Agricultural Development Programme Policy Investment Framework (CAADP/PIF) structures and processes. The proposed re-design process may however help accelerate integration including future New Alliance annual progress reviews. It is recommended that future New Alliance reviews operate within the on-going, annual PIF Review/ Retreat process.

CAPACITY BUILDING & GRANTS

During 2014 a key task of AKLDP has been to get the Grants Program established to provide competitive and non-competitive grants to universities, research institutes, civil society organizations and private sector.

The AKLDP includes a capacity-building component to support higher education and research institutes at national and regional levels in Ethiopia to undertake research on agriculture sector issues, with an emphasis on policy-relevant research. During the project an AKLDP grant fund will be established to support capacity building of selected organizations. Grant recipients will be chosen based on the quality of proposals, their technical relevance to FTF and AKLDP, and the administrative capacity of the partner.

During 2014 a key task of AKLDP has been to get the Grants Program established to provide competitive and non-competitive grants to universities, research institutes, civil society organizations and private sector. AKLDP staff identified research topics that would contribute to FTF learning in Ethiopia and targeted leading research institutions with a proven track record in delivering high quality research. Bilateral meetings have been held with selected institutions to discuss the preparation of proposals.



PROGRESS AGAINST DELIVERABLES: EXAMPLE 03

The New Alliance for Food Security and Nutrition Review

ETHIOPIA ECONOMICS ASSOCIATION ANNUAL CONFERENCE

The 12th Ethiopia Economics Association Annual Conference – the ‘International Conference on the Ethiopian Economy’ took place from 16-19 July 2014. The conference was held jointly with the 19th Annual Conference of the African Econometric Society (AES), with the AES becoming the Africa Chapter of the Econometric Society.

In March AKLDP provisionally agreed to support the conference under a grant to EEA. A number of prominent economists had agreed to attend the joint conference, including Jim Heckman (Nobel Prize winner), Justin Lin (former Chief Economist of the World Bank), and Chris Udry (Yale University Professor of Economics and an expert on Africa). It was planned that AKLDP would support the travel of two prominent economists who had agreed to attend the joint conference and who would present keynote speeches. In April a series of meetings were held with the President of the Ethiopia Economics Association to confirm AKLDP support and it was agreed that AKLDP would also organize a specific session on Feed the Future issues, with the conference hosting

a USAID’s Feed the Future plenary meeting. AKLDP would work with Feed the Future implementing partners to identify themes that would be presented at the conference.

The joint conference was held at the ECA Conference Center in July and was attended by more than 1,450 people. The State Minister, Ministry of Finance and Economic Development H.E Dr. Abrham Tekeste, opened the conference. Following the opening, four speeches were made by: Professor Justin Yifu Lin, Honorary Dean, National School of Development, Peking University; Professor Manuel Arellano, President of Econometric Society; Professor Christopher Udry, Yale University; and Professor Shiferaw Gurmu, Professor of Economics, Georgia State University.

Over the four days a total of more than 120 papers were presented, including 65 by presenters from other countries in Africa, Europe and North America. Government ministers, international and local researchers, and representatives of donors all participated in the conference. In August AKLDP staff received a letter of appreciation from the Ethiopia Economics Association for the support provided.

Other AKLDP capacity building activities have included:

- Supporting the Ethiopia Economics Association Annual Conference — see Box above.
- Tracking the progress made at Bulehora, Jigjiga and Semera Universities where the Tufts component of the USAID-funded Pastoral Livelihoods Initiative has initiated a mainstreaming of pastoralism course.

Tracking the institutionalisation of knowledge on pastoralism into the under-graduate and post-graduate curricula of

three universities in Afar, Oromia and Somali regions which involved visits and detailed assessments of the quality of teaching. Bulehora University has delivered the common course on pastoralism to nine departments in the first semester and a further six departments in the second semester reaching 1,602 and 1,948 students respectively. The universities of Samara and Jigjiga had to delay their teaching as a stand-alone course until the 2015-16 academic year. The programme is a partnership with IIED, and uses a Students’ manual/text book — the relevance and accessibility of which also had to be assessed.

KNOWLEDGE SERVICES

Knowledge services play a key role in supporting the learning, coordination and capacity-building activities of AKLDP. The project's approach to knowledge services assumes that most people involved in policy and programming require relevant, focused and practical information—capable of directly helping them to understand the issues they have to deal with on a daily basis. New evidence and analysis is used to brief donors, government, program partners and a range of other actors. The format is often short PowerPoint presentations followed by discussion sessions in internal donor or government briefings, as well as more public workshops, forums and training courses.

During 2014 AKLDP has identified areas where it plans to contribute to learning and ultimately to help inform policymaking and programming. Surprisingly, in view of the length of time that the AKLDP has been operational, the team has received many invitations and special requests to attend workshops and conferences, and to present short papers on AKLDP related thematic areas. In addition, AKLDP has received requests for technical assistance every month—asking for comments on proposals, research papers, strategic planning processes, sector reviews etc. See August example in the box opposite.

Other AKLDP Knowledge Services activities have included:

- Production of the [technical brief 'Resilience in Africa's Drylands: Revisiting the Drought Cycle Management Model'](#)
- The design of the AKLDP project website: <http://www.agri-learning-ethiopia.org/>

The AKLDP wrote the Drought Cycle Management Technical Brief in May 2014 in response to a number of technical requests related to drought and appropriate drought



responses. The technical brief referenced the 2011 and 2012 Horn of Africa drought, pointing out that while Kenya and Ethiopia avoided famine, the livelihoods of people living in the region's drylands – pastoralists, agro-pastoralists and farmers – were severely impacted, and the economies of both countries suffered. The technical brief argues that the 30 year old Drought Cycle Management (DCM) model is a robust and practical approach that links effective relief support to long-term development planning, through the four stages of 'normal, alert, emergency and recovery.' The model presents a common framework against which humanitarian, development, resilience and advocacy work can be aligned. The AKLDP brief describes the DCM model, explains its use in Ethiopia as part of successful commercial destocking during 2005-6, and makes the case for further mainstreaming of DCM in regional and national drought resilience planning. The DCM model has been adopted by Kenya's National Drought Management Agency and Ethiopia's Disaster Risk Management Agriculture Task Force.

During the period of reporting the AKLDP invested considerable time and effort into designing the AKLDP project website and it is planned this will be launched in October 2014.

The project's approach to knowledge services assumes that most people involved in policy and programming require relevant, focused and practical information—capable of directly helping them to understand the issues they have to deal with on a daily basis.

PROGRESS AGAINST DELIVERABLES: EXAMPLE 04

Extract from AKLDP Monthly Report for August 2014

ATTENDING EVENTS

Ethiopia Seed Growers and Processors Association (ESGA): AKLDP attended the one-day awareness workshop on Ethiopia's seed laws and regulation that was held on the 29th July at the Dreamliner Hotel. Organized with the support of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the workshop was opened by Ato Fikre Markos (Advisor to the State Minister for crop protection) Ministry of Agriculture.

Ethiopia Society of Animal Production (ESAP) Annual Conference: AKLDP participated in the ESAP 22nd Annual Conference held on the 28th-30th August at the Ethiopia Institute for Agriculture Research. The Conference was officially opened by H.E. Dr. GebreEgziabher GebreYohanes, State Minister for Livestock Development, Ministry of Agriculture. Following the official opening, H.E. the State Minister presented the Livestock Master Plan 2013-2028 (LMP), the first five years of which will be aligned with the Government's Growth and Transformation Plan II (GTP II). Following the keynote speech, AKLDP met with the State Minister, and during the discussion AKLDP was invited to assist in organizing a technical advisory committee to help implement the plan. The Minister's office will draft a concept note to be shared with AKLDP.

Harnessing Biotechnology for Food Security and Agricultural Transformation in Ethiopia: AKLDP staff member attended the two-day international conference on the 21st and 22nd August that was organized by USAID-CIAFS. The conference was attended by researchers and scientists from Ethiopia, Africa, Latin America and the United States and officially opened by H.E. Mohamuda Ahmed Gass, State Minister for Science and Technology and Ms Aster Estifanos, Advisor to the Minister of Agriculture.

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE REQUESTS

Concern: AKLDP was requested to comment and discuss Concern's proposed social protection programme proposal.

Diageo: AKLDP commented on the Technoserve PMP for Diageo and will attend the proposed review meeting early in September.

ILRI Gender Advisor: Briefing on the Gender Champions concept and how this might be replicated in ILRI.

KPMG: AKLDP met KPMG's Strategic Climate Change Institutions Programme (SCIP) program manager to discuss the Share Fair – 4th and 5th September 2014.

Netherlands Embassy – Humanitarian Assistance Review: AKLDP was requested to meet the NE lead consultant and provide input to the review and strategic planning process. Topics covered included the Humanitarian Response Fund RF and the PSNP contingency fund.

Oxfam GB: AKLDP was invited to brief Oxfam GB's regional climate change advisor on the agriculture sector policy environment.

VSF: AKLDP met with the lead Consultant of the VSF internal review and strategic planning exercise to provide input and thinking on opportunities and challenges for the livestock sector.

Visiting undergraduate from Northwestern University: an interview on USAID's Feed the Future portfolio – perceptions from the US and Ethiopia.

AKLDP website: Content was added to the draft website during August based on AKLDP outputs, with a launch for the site expected in mid-September.

PROGRESS AGAINST WORK PLAN

REPORTING PERIOD: 1ST JANUARY TO 30TH SEPTEMBER 2014

STRUCTURED LEARNING COMPONENT

IRI: AGRICULTURE SECTOR POLICIES IMPROVED				
Intermediate Results	Specific Activity	Planned Deliverables/ Results	Progress Against Planned Deliverables	FTF Indicator Area
<p>Sub IR 1.1</p> <p>Agriculture policy environment is improved in key areas - e.g. livestock, irrigation, seed, biotech, land policy & administration, and pastoral land, price controls, grain storage and climate change</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The MoA requests the AKLDP to lead the 2014 New Alliance for Food Security and Nutrition annual progress review 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A quality annual progress review 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The AKLDP submits a progress report to a multi-stakeholder workshop - MoA, development partners, CSO and private sector actors. The AKLDP delivers a quality 2014 Annual Progress Review to the MoA (See Example 02) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Institutional architecture for improved policy formulation
<p>Sub IR 1.2</p> <p>MoA leads participatory evidence-based policy dialogue with stakeholders resulting in improved agriculture, livestock and nutrition policies and strategies for the three Ethiopias: "adequate moisture, moisture deficit and pastoral"</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The AKLDP supports strategic policy processes –livestock, pastoralism, agriculture inputs (seeds), gender, nutrition and resilience 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A detailed review of the Intermediate and Informal Seeds Directives for the ATA 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The AKLDP delivers a detailed review of the Intermediate and Informal Seeds Directives. The ATA incorporates AKLDP generated issues in the final Directives that was submitted to the Council of Ministers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Effective implementation of seeds proclamation, regulations and directives
<p>Sub IR 1.3</p> <p>The findings from research/impact assessments, cost-benefit analysis, performance evaluations and recommendations are disseminated among stakeholders and discussed in partnership with MoA and MoH</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The AKLDP leads a management option review of the Mille Quarantine Center for the MoA and MoT 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The AKLDP and USAID AGP-LMD provide a detailed study of management options for the Mille Quarantine Centre 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The AKLDP and USAID AGP-LMD organise study tours for MoA and MoT to Djibouti and Somaliland. (See Example 01) The study team submits a detailed report on Public-Private Partnership management options to the MoA and MoT 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Public Private Partnership for livestock service infrastructure
<p>Sub IR 1.4</p> <p>The function and effectiveness of existing, piloted and proposed agriculture policies and strategies are identified and researched on a demand-driven basis. (e.g. what works, what doesn't, why or why not, and what are models from other countries?)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> AKLDP support for the State Ministry of Livestock to develop effective livestock policies 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No specific requests beyond the study reported above (sub IR 1.3) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The AKLDP did however provide detailed comments to USAID on the Livestock Master Plan 	
<p>Sub IR 1.5</p> <p>Policies identified and implemented to promote integrated public policy for agriculture to address the nutrition and health needs</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> USAID requests the AKLDP to lead the USAID-funded ENGINE Mid-term Evaluation (MTE) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The AKLDP leads the ENGINE MTE 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The AKLDP delivers a high quality MTE to USAID 	

Intermediate Results	Specific Activity	Planned Deliverables/ Results	Progress Against Planned Deliverables	FTF Indicator Area
<p>Sub IR 1.6</p> <p>Capacity of local research organizations and institutions improved through partnerships, joint research and mentoring</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> AKLDP capacity building support for up to 12 academic institutions to lead research on topical FTF issues 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The AKLDP to identify Ethiopian universities for research awards, mentoring and capacity-building support 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The AKLDP supports the 12th Annual Conference of the Ethiopia Economics Association and the 19th Annual Conference of the African Econometric Society (AES) (see Example 03) The AKLDP identifies 8 universities for grants awards and receives and screens concept notes. The universities requested to develop full research proposals 	

IR 2: AGRICULTURE DEVELOPMENT AND RESILIENCE PROGRAMS IMPROVED AND EVALUATED

<p>Sub IR 2.1</p> <p>Collaboration and coordination is achieved across USAID, GoE and other donor programs</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The AKLDP joins and supports the Pastoral Task Force (PTF) The AKLDP join and supports the DRM ATF 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The AKLDP supports the PFT and the DRM ATF to coordinate pastoral and resilience programming 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The AKLDP becomes an active member of the two Task Forces. It contributes in minute taking, reviews ToR for consultancies and initiatives. The AKLDP provides detailed review comments on the Lowlands Design of the next Generation of PSNP and Household Asset Building Programme 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Social protection policy strengthened to include resilience-based livelihood support
<p>Sub IR 2.2</p> <p>Through collaborative learning networks, lessons learned about 'good practices' are systemically incorporated and scaled-up across on-going and new activities/ interventions</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The AKLDP supports the launch of a Home Gardens platform for improved nutrition outcomes The AKLDP support the establishment of a Cereals and Legumes platform to support the scaling-up of good practice 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The AKLDP launches the platforms and organises regular meetings for information sharing and improved coordination 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The AKLDP launches the Home Gardens platform. The launch meeting is attended by more than 30 organisations The AKLDP provides detailed comments on the Next Generation Design Document for the Rural Productive Safety Net including a short Briefing Paper-Permagardens for Resilient Family Nutrition 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nutrition sensitive agriculture mainstreamed in MoA policy and strategy documents
<p>Sub IR 2.3</p> <p>Capacity for "learning cycle" strengthened (i.e. evaluation, knowledge capture/synthesis, best practices identified, incorporated in program design, and implemented)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The AKLDP organises and facilitate FTF quarterly 'learning' meetings for USAID The AKLDP joins and supports USAID's Gender Champions Network 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The AKLDP delivers FTF Quarterly Meetings The AKLDP is an active member of the USAID's Gender Champions Network 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The AKLDP organises and facilitate the USAID Feed the Future Quarterly meetings in June on agriculture sector policy processes The AKLDP becomes an active member of the Gender Champions Network 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improved gender and nutrition sensitive agriculture practice mainstreamed in MoA policy and strategy documents

Intermediate Results	Specific Activity	Planned Deliverables/ Results	Progress Against Planned Deliverables	FTF Indicator Area
Sub IR 2.4 A Knowledge Management System established that captures, shares, disseminates and publishes information about policy and activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Design and launch the AKLDP web-site 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The AKLDP contracts a design company to design its website 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The AKLDP contracted design company develops a design for the AKLDP website The AKLDP also develops a contact list of key stakeholders 	
Sub IR 2.5 Participatory analysis of impact, mapping and thematic analysis completed on a demand-driven basis and feed into collaborative learning networks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> See Responsive Learning Component below 			
Sub IR 2.6 Capacity of local research organizations and institutions improved through partnerships, joint research and mentoring	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> See Sub IR 1.6 above 			

RESPONSIVE LEARNING COMPONENT

IRI: POLICIES IMPROVED

Sub IR 1.1 Agriculture policy improved in key areas — e.g. livestock, irrigation, seed, biotech, land policy & administration, price controls, grain storage and climate change	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The AKLDP requested by the RED&FS to lead the PIF2 Review and Revision process in 2015 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The AKLDP facilitates a quality PIF Review and Revision in 2015 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No specific progress to report 	
Sub IR 1.2 MoA leads participatory evidence-based policy dialogue with stakeholders resulting in agriculture, livestock and nutrition policies and strategies drafted and adopted for all three Ethiopias: "adequate moisture deficit hungry and pastoral"	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No requests 			
Sub IR 1.3 The findings from research /impact assessments, cost-benefit analysis, performance evaluations and recommendations disseminated among stakeholders in partnership with MoA and MoH	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No requests 			
Sub IR 1.4 Policies and strategies are identified and implemented to effectively trigger action and promote integrated public policy for agriculture to address the nutrition and health needs of Ethiopia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No requests 			

Intermediate Results	Specific Activity	Planned Deliverables/ Results	Progress Against Planned Deliverables	FTF Indicator Area
Sub IR 1.5 Capacity of local research organizations and institutions improved through partnerships, joint research and mentoring	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No requests 			
IR 2 – AGRICULTURE DEVELOPMENT AND RESILIENCE PROGRAMS IMPROVED AND EVALUATED				
Sub IR 2.1 Collaboration and coordination is achieved across USAID, GoE and other donor programs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No requests 			
Sub IR 2.2 Through collaborative learning networks, lessons learned about 'good practices' are systemically incorporated and scaled-up across on-going and new activities/ interventions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No requests 			
Sub IR 2.3 Capacity for "learning cycle" strengthened (i.e. evaluation, knowledge capture/synthesis, best practices identified, incorporated in program design, and implemented)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No requests 			
Sub IR 2.4 A Knowledge Management System is established that captures, shares, disseminates and publishes information about policy and activities on a regular basis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No requests 			
Sub IR 2.5 Sub IR 2.5 Participatory analysis of program impacts, mapping and thematic analysis completed on a demand-driven basis and feed into collaborative learning networks	USAID requests the AKLDP to lead: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The AMDe, PRIME and LMD and the FTF portfolio MTRs for USAID The rapid assessment of the USAID-MASHAV-MoA supported Smallholder Horticulture Program (SHP) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The AKLDP to identify lead consultants and to start the procurement process The AKLDP lead the rapid assessment of the USAID-MASHAV-MoA SHP 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The AKLDP identifies lead consultants that are approved by USAID and starts procurement process The rapid assessment is started. The AKLDP reviews documentation and starts the field work 	
Sub IR 2.6 Capacity of local research organizations and institutions improved through partnerships, joint research and mentoring	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support the mainstreaming of the pastoral course launched in 3 universities in pastoral areas 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pastoral courses delivered in 3 universities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The AKLDP conducts training to support the mainstreaming of the pastoral course in 3 universities 	

PARTNERS

ORGANISATIONS THAT HAVE REQUESTED ASSISTANCE FROM OR CONTRIBUTED TO THE PROJECT IN 2014

PARTNER ORGANISATIONS

MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE

- State Ministry of Agriculture Growth
- State Ministry Livestock Sector Development
- Agriculture Transformation Agency

MINISTRY OF TRADE

- Rural Economic Development & Food Security — Sector Working Group
 - Private Sector Development Task Force
 - Pastoral Task Force

USAID

- Feed the Future
- Gender Champions Group
- Feed the Future implementing partners — ACDI/VOCA, CARE, Cultivating New Frontiers in Agriculture, Mercy Corps and Save the Children International

AKLDP HAS PROVIDED TECHNICAL AND OTHER SUPPORT TO THE FOLLOWING:

- Concern Worldwide
- Ethiopia Economics Association
- Ethiopia Seed Growers and Processors Association
- Ethiopia Society of Animal Production
- Ethiopian Veterinary Association (EVA)
- European Union — Directorate-Generals for International Cooperation (DEVCO) and Development and Humanitarian Aid (ECHO)
- Futures Agriculture Consortium (IDS)
- International Committee of the Red Cross
- International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI)
- International Livestock Research Institute
- Netherlands Embassy
- Oxfam GB
- United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)
- Veterinaires Sans Frontieres

CORE TEAM & TECHNICAL ADVISORS

A LIST OF THE CORE AKLDP TEAM MEMBERS

ADDIS TEAM

Chief of Party/Senior Program Manager
Adrian Cullis

Senior Evidence and Policy Adviser
Dr. Andrew Catley

Capacity-Building Coordinator and Senior Pastoralist Areas Advisor
Dr. Berhanu Admassu

Senior Agriculture, Food Security and Gender Advisor
Dr. Amdissa Teshome

Senior Agriculture Sector Analyst
Dr. Demese Chanyalew

Senior Agronomist
Dr. Amare Ghizaw

Senior Value Chain Specialist
Yabob Aklilu

Home Garden Network Coordinator/Intern
Bruke Kebede

Project Administrator
TSION Fisseha

BOSTON TEAM

Grant Administrator
Elizabeth Gelzinis

Project Assistance
Liz Layton

ENDNOTES

- 1 See www.feedthefuture.gov/countries
- 2 Development Objective #1 of USAID Ethiopia's Country Development Cooperation Strategy.
- 3 Ministry of Agriculture, 2010. Ethiopia's Agriculture Sector Policy Investment Framework 2010-2020. Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia.
- 4 CSA. Annual Crop Assessments: www.csa.gov.et
- 5 CSA. 2014. Ethiopia Mini Demographic and Health Survey 2014. Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
- 6 The Productive Safety Net Program (PSNP) was launched in 2005 and provides predictable food and cash transfers to chronically food insecure households. The PSNP is being reviewed and redesigned for the period 2015 to 2020. Under the new design it is planned the beneficiary number will be increased from 5.2 million (January 2015) to 7.98 million people (January 2016). The AKLDP reviewed and commented on the pastoral issues paper and provided technical input on home gardens for improved nutrition.
- 7 The Agriculture Growth Program (AGP) phase I was launched in Sept 2010 and implemented from Dec 2010. AGP Phase II was launched in August 2015. The AKLDP engaged in a number of redesign workshops and meetings.
- 8 The Rural Economic Development and Food Security (RED&FS) Sector Working Group was launched in 2008 in response to a request from the Ministry of Finance and Economic Development (MoFED) to agriculture sector development partners to better coordinate and harmonize activities and investment. The RED&FS provides a joint investment planning platform for the MoA and its development partners. It comprises an Executive Committee and four Technical Committees (TCs), namely Agricultural Growth, Sustainable Land Management, Livestock Sector Development and Disaster Risk Management and Food Security (DRMFSTC).
- 9 The New Alliance Cooperation Framework for Ethiopia was launched in Addis Ababa in September 2012 with an overall goal to assist 2.9 million Ethiopian smallholder farmers to emerge from poverty by 2022. Important elements of the New Alliance in Ethiopia include government commitments to 15 policy reforms in the agriculture sector and enhanced private sector investment in agriculture.

